

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1895
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2016
ICT Index
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the International Telecommunication Union has developed a composite index called ICT development index;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government plans to enhance digital literacy through capacity building programmes in regional languages;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the initiatives taken by the Government for improvement in the ICT development index?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b) Yes. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) measures ICTs penetration globally through a composite index called 'ICT Development Index (IDI)'. The index takes three aspects into consideration namely, ICT Access, ICT Usage and ICT Skill using 11 (eleven) parameters as detailed below:

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S.No. Item Sub-category

1. Fixed Telephone lines per 100 inhabitants

Access

2. Mobile cellular telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants

3. International Internet bandwidth (bit/s) per internet user

4. Percentage of households with a computer

5. Percentage of households with Internet access at home

6. Percentage of Internet users per 100 inhabitants

Usage

7. Fixed broadband (BB) Internet subscribers per 100 inhabitants

8. Mobile broadband subscribers per 100 inhabitants

9. Adult literacy rate

Skills

10. Secondary gross enrolment ratio

11. Tertiary gross enrolment ratio

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(c) & (d) Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DeitY) has approved two Schemes for providing Digital Literacy to the masses:

(i) A scheme entitled 'National Digital Literacy Mission' to train 10 lakh persons in digital literacy was approved in March 2014.

(ii) Subsequently, a scheme entitled 'Digital Saksharta Abhiyan' (DISHA) to train 42.5 lakh persons in digital literacy throughout the country was approved on 09.12.2014 under Digital India.

Both these Schemes are being run concurrently. So far, under the NDLM/DISHA schemes, around 50.55 lakh candidates have been registered, a total of 39.11 lakh students have been trained and approximately 16.13 lakh students have been certified. A total of about 1,900 organizations are working as Training Partners under these schemes.

(e) Several measures are being taken which may result in the improvement of the ICT Development Index. The Digital India is an umbrella program driving several initiatives such as, among others, Bharat Net (Broadband highways to 2,50,000 panchayats), Public Internet Access Program, ICT Skill Development and eKranti (Electronic delivery of services)
